IN THE CLAIMS:

81. (currently amended) A resource management system, comprising:

a deficiency database including information regarding deficiencies of resources;

a resource database including information about resources used in an enterprise; and

a processor coupled to the deficiency database and resource database and arranged to use deficiency information from the deficiency database and resource information from the resource database to provide information regarding a characteristic of a resource based on one or more deficiencies related to at least one resource used in the enterprise, the provided information usable for resource management.

1   82. (original) A resource management system as in claim 81, wherein said
2   deficiency database includes information on deficiencies of a resource relating to at least
3   one of resource attributes, characteristics, performance, life, cost, efficiency, failure
4   modes, compatibility, life cycle cost, quality of construction and mean time between
5   failure, for at least one of the resource itself and differences between the resource and a
6   given resource, a best-in-class resource and an enterprise objective.

1   83. (currently amended) A resource management system as in claim 81, wherein
2   said deficiency database includes information regarding deficiencies relating to

3   interactions among resources <u>and the processor is arranged to provide information</u>

4   <u>regarding a characteristic of a resource based also on said information regarding</u>

5   <u>deficiencies relating to interactions among resources.</u>

1   84. (original) A resource management system as in claim 81, wherein said

2   deficiency database includes information regarding deficiencies of at least one of

3   operating resources, manufacturing resources and human resources.

1   85. (original) A resource management system as in claim 81, further comprising:

2   an access unit coupled to said processor and arranged to enable a user to

3   access information on a deficiency related to a selected resource used in the enterprise.

1   86. (original) A resource management system as in claim 81 or 85, further

2   comprising:

3   a storage unit coupled to said processor and arranged to store the

4   deficiency database and the resource database.

1   87. (original) A resource management system as in claim 81 or 85, further

2   comprising:

3   an entry unit arranged to enable additional information to be added to at

4   least one of the deficiency database and resource database.

5   88. (original) A resource management system as in claim 81 or 84, wherein said

6   deficiency database includes information on cost impacts of deficiencies.

       89. - 131 (canceled)

1   132. (currently amended) A process, comprising the steps of:

2   providing a deficiency database including information regarding

3   deficiencies of resources;

4   providing a resource database including information about resources used

5   in an enterprise; and

6   deriving, with <u>use of deficiency information from</u> ~~access to~~ the deficiency

7   database and <u>resource information from the</u> resource database, information regarding a

8   characteristic of a resource based on one or more deficiencies related to at least one

9   resource used in the enterprise, the derived information usable for resource management.

1   133. (original) A process as in claim 132, wherein the first step comprises:

2   providing a deficiency database including information on deficiencies of a

3   resource relating to at least one of resource attributes, characteristics, performance, life,

4   cost, efficiency, failure modes, compatibility, life cycle cost, quality of construction and

5   mean time between failure, for at least one of the resource itself and differences between

6   the resource and a given resource, a best-in-class resource and an enterprise objective.

1   134. (currently amended) A process as in claim 132, wherein:

2   the first step comprises providing a deficiency database including

3   information regarding deficiencies relating to interactions among resources ; and

4   the third step comprises deriving information regarding a characteristic of

5   a resource based also on said information regarding deficiencies relating to interactions

6   among resources.

1   135. (original) A process as in claim 132, wherein the first step comprises:

2   providing a deficiency database including information regarding

3   deficiencies of at least one of operating resources, manufacturing resources and human

4   resources.

1   136. (original) A process as in claim 132, wherein the first step comprises:

2   providing a deficiency database including information on cost impacts of

3   deficiencies.

1   137. (original) A process as in claim 132 or 133, wherein the third step

2   comprises:

3   deriving, in response to a value for the estimated life of a resource and to

4   information regarding a deficiency of the resource, a determination regarding effects of

5   use of the resource relative to an operating objective of the enterprise.

1   138. (original) A process as in any one of claims 132, 133 and 134, wherein the

2   third step comprises:

3   deriving, with access to the deficiency database and responsive to a

4   deficiency related to a resource, an estimate of the life of the resource.

1   139. (original) A process as in any one of claims 132, 133 and 134, wherein the

2   third step comprises:

3   deriving, with access to the deficiency database and responsive to a

4   deficiency related to a resource, information on a failure mode associated with the

5   resource.

1   140. (original) A process as in any one of claims 132, 133 and 134, wherein the

2   third step comprises:

3   deriving, with access to the deficiency database and responsive to an

4   indication of a failure mode of a resource, information on at least one deficiency related

5   to the indicated failure mode of the resource.

1   141. (original) A process as in any one of claims 132, 133, 134 and 136, wherein

2   the third step comprises:

3   deriving, with access to the deficiency database and responsive to a

4   deficiency related to a resource, a life cycle cost estimate regarding the resource and said

5   deficiency.

1   142. (original) A process as in any one of claims 132, 133 and 134, wherein the

2   third step comprises:

3   deriving, with access to the deficiency database and resource database and

4   responsive to identification of an enterprise objective, an indication of a preferred

5   combination of resources to meet the enterprise objective.

1   143. (original) A process as in any one of claims 132, 133 and 134, wherein the

2   third step comprises:

3   deriving, with access to the deficiency database and resource database and

4   responsive to identification of a combination of resources, an indication of deficiencies

5   relating to the combination of resources.

1   144. (original) A process as in any one of claims 132, 133 and 134, wherein the

2   third step comprises:

3   deriving, with access to the deficiency database and resource database and

4   responsive to characteristic of a first resource, information on a modification which, when

5   made, enables the first resource to be compatible with a second resource.

1   145. (original) A process as in any one of claims 132, 133 and 134, wherein the

2   third step comprises:

3   deriving, with access to the deficiency database and responsive to

4   information on a failure of a resource, information on possible causes of failure of the

5   resource.

        146. - 154. (canceled)